case the requisite data in terms of Wholesale Price Index are as under:

	1990-91 as on 11-8-90	(Calendar year 1990)
Price rise	4·7	6·7 (Jan.—June)
Annual Inflation	7·4	9·0 (end June ,90)
Rate	(9.1)*	7·8 (*end Dec. '89*)

*Inflation rate at the end of March, 1990.

It may be observed that the annual inflation rate as on 11-8-1990 is lower as compared to what it was at the end of June 1990 or at the end of March 1990. The rise in prices is largely due to seasonal factors associated with the marketing of agricultural crops, which remain in operation upto the middle of September.

The Government has adopted a package of measures to contain price rise. These include a reduction in the budget deficit, strict economy in Government expenditure, distribution of essential commodities through public distribution system, augmenting domestic supplies through imports, as feasible, and action against hoarders and black-marketeers.

Impact of increased aid to East European countries by developed countries and International Financial Institution on India

2669. SHRI S. MADHAVAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have examined as to how the increased aid to East European countries by the developed countries and international financial institutions will affect the quantum of aid to our country; and

(b) what steps are being taken to avoid a cut in the financial aid to our country from those agencies/countries?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANIL SHASTRI): (a) and (b) An increase in aid to Eastern Europe by developed countries and international financial institutions is not likely to adversely affect the quantum of aid to India.

Selling of individual units of Metal Box by BIFR

2670. SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR) has decided to sell off individual units of the Metal Box; and

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANIL SHASTRI): (a) and (b) Presently, the case of M/s. Metal Box India Ltd. is under the consideration of BIFR, a quasi-judicial body, who would be deciding it in due course in accordance with provisions contained in Sick Industrial Companies (Special Provisions) Act, 1985 and procedures laid down in the regulations framed thereunder.

In the last hearing of the case, Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR) observed that the rehabilitation of the company, as